



## **Superior Court Therapeutic Specialty Courts 2019 Year End Report**

For more information:  
[www.clark.wa.gov/therapeutic-courts](http://www.clark.wa.gov/therapeutic-courts)



Therapeutic Specialty Courts approaches substance use disorder as a public health issue where individuals receive behavioral health and medication assisted treatment in order to manage their chronic disease. This is a more compassionate and humane approach to an ever increasing opioid epidemic where far too many lives are being lost to addiction.

Therapeutic Specialty Courts offer a solution.

These court programs saves lives; restore communities, reunite families; serve our veterans, divert juveniles from a life of crime all the while saving money. By taking a holistic and family-centered approach, research shows participants improve their futures by going back to school, find gainful employment, obtain stable housing, take parenting classes and repair relationships. The program helps participants remove the barriers that have kept them in a vicious cycle in the system.



We thank you for your continued interest, support and/or partnership with these life-saving programs...we simply could not do this work without all the agencies involved! This booklet takes a look at just a few of the thousands of individual successes stories and lives that have been transformed.

Best Regards,  
Shauna McCloskey

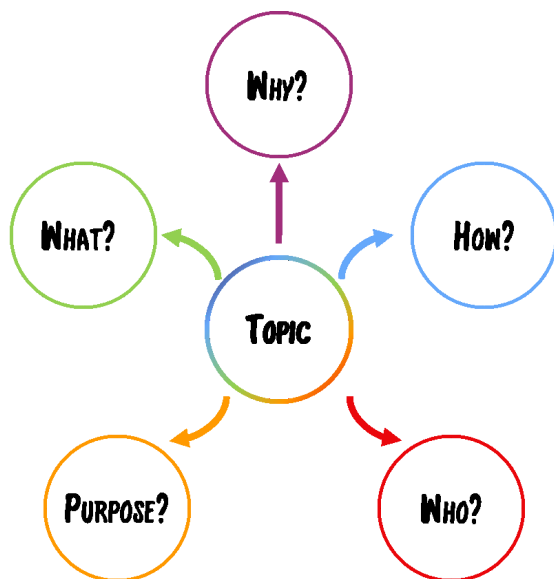


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**THE WHAT:** Therapeutic Specialty Courts (TSC) offer a system of support, services and structure to address a public health issue while holding individuals accountable through the courts.

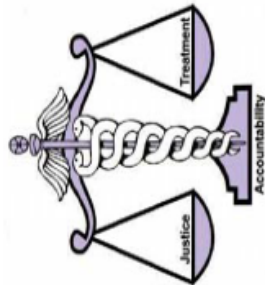
**THE WHY:** These programs improve the quality of life and safety in our community and allow precious resources to be reallocated to reduce costs within the county's court system.

**THE WHO:** A judicial officer leads a multidisciplinary team of professionals (defense, prosecution, probation/law enforcement, treatment providers, social workers, court-appointed special advocates-CASA, peer mentors/recovery support staff, court coordinator and other administrative support staff/clerks) whom all aid in providing the necessary supervision and monitoring of participant behavior.

**THE HOW:** Through these community partnerships, program participants are able to treat their illness, learn new skills, overcome barriers, repair relationships, transform their lives and reunite families. Programs are structured with multiple phases; each with its own prescribed set of requirements of treatment, recovery support services and meetings, skill-building classes; randomized drug / alcohol testing, office and/or home visits and court review hearings. With input from the team, the judge uses the court's leverage to shape desired behavior using a wide range of incentives, sanctions and therapeutic interventions.

**THE PURPOSE:** The purpose of the TSC programs are to provide effective behavioral health treatment services to eligible non-violent individuals whom are determined to be at high risk to continue to cycle through the court systems if the underlying disorders are not addressed. Therapeutic Courts follow national and state standards to ensure our programs have the most cost-effective and crime / foster care reducing outcomes possible.

For more information about the most successful intervention in our nation's history, please visit our website: [www.clark.wa.gov/therapeutic-courts](http://www.clark.wa.gov/therapeutic-courts)



# CLARK COUNTY ADULT DRUG COURT

For more info: 564-397-2304

Minimum 1 year, \$100 Program fee



## Phase 1: Stabilization

*approx. 60 days*

- Obtain Drug & Alcohol Evaluation/Assessment
- Obtain additional Evaluations as needed (MH, MAT, DV, etc.)
- Develop & Comply with treatment / case plan
- Attend Program orientation
- Submit Weekly Web-Report
- Random drug/alcohol tests
- Curfew 9 p.m. (unless given permission to be different)
- Weekly visits w/ probation , case manager and/or Recovery Support Specialist if applicable
- Court Weekly
- Discover support groups
- Encourage mentor contact

**SHOW UP. BE HONEST. UA.**

**ASK FOR HELP!**

## Phase 2: Planning

*approx. 90 days*

- Comply w/ Treatment Plan
- Attend 1-2 support meetings per week
- Do Web-Report week of court
- Complete Life Skills requirement
- Weekly check-in's w/ Probation and/or case manager
- Random drug/alcohol tests
- Curfew 10 p.m.
- Court every other week
- Make payments as you can
- Encourage mentor contact

**INCREASE SUPPORT SYSTEM**

## Rewards Used:

- Decreased Requirements
- Praise & Recognition
- Weekly & Monthly Gift Cards
- Sobriety Coins
- Approval of trip permits
- Sober Activities/ Support
- Candy

Referrals to other resources

## Phase 3: Action

*approx. 90 days*

- Comply with Treatment Plan
- Attend 3 support meetings per week
- Do Web-Report week of court
- Complete Life Skills requirement
- Bi-weekly check-in's w/ Probation and/or case manager
- Random drug/alcohol tests
- Curfew 11:00 pm
- Make payments toward \$100 program fee & restitution
- Court Monthly on the 3rd week of the month
- Encourage Mentor contact

**SET GOALS. REDUCE BARRIERS!**

## Sanctions Used:

- Writing Assignments
- Increased Court/Meetings
- Demotion in Phase
- Decreased Curfew & Travel requests
- Community Service/Work Crew
- Residence Change
- Electronic monitoring / Jail

## Phase 4: Maintenance

*approx. 120 days*

- Complete Treatment plan goals
- Attend 3+ support meetings per week
- Court 1x month on 4th week of month
- Monthly check-ins with probation and/or case manager
- Random drug/alcohol tests
- Employment/Education/ Volunteer required (15+hrs/wk)
- Do Web-Report week of court
- Complete 4 Advisory/Alumni Mtgs OR 6 week support circles
- Write letter to arresting officer
- Curfew midnight.
- Make payments toward fee & restitution

## Reasons For Termination:

- Warrant Status
- New Charges/Illegal Behavior
- Unsuccessful discharge from treatment program
- Chronic Non-Compliance / Continued Dishonesty

**Sanctions & Termination Decisions are solely at Judge's Discretion**



# Adult Drug Court

The Adult Drug Court Program was implemented in 1999 with the mission to provide effective behavioral health treatment to non-violent individuals in the criminal justice system. In order to be considered, an individual must reside in Clark County, have an eligible felony-level crime, have a severe substance use disorder and be considered high risk to be a repeat offender. Check out the 20-year anniversary coverage on CVTV or on our website!



The Honorable Scott A. Collier currently presides over both the Adult Drug Court and Residential DOSA Drug Court program for a three-year assignment. Judge Collier attends national and state conferences that address behavior modification strategies and best practices in the field. Judge Collier spent several years planning and presiding over the county's Family Treatment Court program and understands the need and value of addressing the entire family system.

<b>Ending Caseload on December 31st, 2019</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Number of referrals to the program</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Number of individuals that opted in</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Number of individuals that successfully completed the program</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Number of individuals that voluntarily opted out of the program</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Number of individuals that were terminated from the program</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Total number of graduates since program inception (1999)</b>	<b>668</b>
<b>Drug-free babies born in 2019*</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Number of participants that had felony dismissed upon graduation</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Jail / prison days avoided for graduates**</b>	<b>20,850 days</b>
<b>Incarceration cost-savings for graduates***</b>	<b>\$2.85 million</b>

\* Studies calculate that for each drug-free baby born = \$1 million savings in societal costs

\*\* jail bed days calculated using mid-range of criminal sentence (i.e. 12—24 month sentence, used 18 months for calculation)

\*\*\* Incarceration cost-savings = using \$100/day per inmate and total sum of all graduate mid-range sentences minus actual jail days served (759 months or 22,770 days—1,920 actual days served x \$100/day = \$2.85 million)



# Residential DOSA Drug Court

The Residential Drug Offender Sentencing Alternative (DOSA) Drug Court is an effective use of a sentencing option available to judicial officers throughout the state of Washington for repeat felony-level offenders diagnosed with a severe substance use disorder. The program offers eligible adults the opportunity to serve a 24 month alternative sentence under the supervision of the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) and Superior Court. By statute, an individual participating in the Residential DOSA Drug Court is ordered to complete a three-to-six month residential inpatient treatment program at the onset of supervision and then returns to Clark County to resume outpatient treatment and all the additional requirements of the Adult Drug Court program (see flowchart on page 5). The program has been in operation since 2009 and will have an Outcome evaluation completed winter 2020 with the conclusion of a three year federal grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

<b>Ending Caseload on December 31st, 2019</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Number of referrals to the program</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Number of individuals that opted in*</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Number of individuals that successfully completed the program</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Number of individuals that voluntarily opted out of the program</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Number of individuals that were terminated from the program</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total number of graduates since program inception (2009)</b>	<b>124</b>
<b>Drug-free babies born in 2019</b>	<b>2</b>

\* participants may have been screened/referred in a previous year

"Since opting in to Res DOSA, I've graduated a long-term inpatient program and all aftercare treatment programming; I'm in compliance with DOC supervision, I'm on the Board of Directors with the Recovery Café Clark County; a member of the Opioid Task Force; a certified Recovery Coach and I'm helping to contribute to a new online community resource library called [Healthbridge.Care](#). My 18 yr. old son is back in my life after not speaking for over seven years and reconciled with my little brother after 10 years. I walked my daughter down the aisle at her wedding and a part of my grandchildren's lives. I am enrolled in school for Addictions Counseling and present at a lot of community meetings and groups as well as taken other mentoring and ethics courses. I have set a goal to also open a Recovery Gym. I am the President of a local clean and sober Oxford house and in January 2020, celebrated 18 months being clean and sober after a 30-year addiction!"

~Andrew



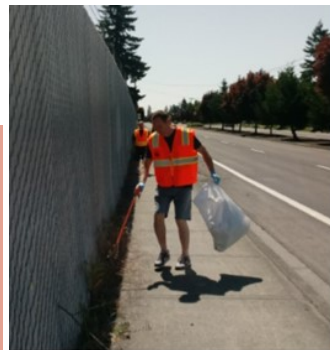
# CVAB Reach Too Program

Reach Too is a branch of CVAB that offers peer to peer support for individuals who identify as having a substance use disorder or a co-occurring disorder and a history of criminal justice involvement. In partnership with the Clark County Therapeutic Specialty Courts and the Clark County Jail Re-entry program, Reach Too offers one on one peer mentoring, housing support, employment support, peer support groups, educational / life skills classes, arts and crafts,



prosocal events, exercise and recreational activities. Trained volunteer mentors are alumni of the Therapeutic Courts and/ or jail re-entry that they were once a participant of. Peer recovery support benefits both the participant and the mentor by providing recovery support to the participant and as a way of “giving back”. Participants learn to have fun in recovery, meet new friends and overcome challenges.

Above: Recovery Softball League, Right: Community Service project, below: bowling night



# Family Treatment Court

Family Treatment Court was implemented in 2006 and is designed to improve the safety and well-being of children in the dependency system through a collaborative approach with numerous community partners providing comprehensive and individualized services for both parents and their children. The goals are to increase reunification of children with their parent(s); decrease length of time children spend as dependents;

increase recovery and stability of parents and decrease re-entry of families back into child protective services. FTC operates on multiple collaborative levels: at the family case level as well as the system or agency level. No single agency has the skill or capacity to meet all of the needs of the family and FTC builds on the networks of each partnering system to be family-centered. FTC complies with RCW 82.14.460 of the sales and use tax mandating every county that authorizes the tax to operate a therapeutic court for dependency proceedings designed to be effective for the court's size, location and resources.



Reach Too has been a place for me to meet other women in the program and Christy (Recovery Coach) has been the most loving and supportive mentor. Family Fun night is always so much fun. It's so exciting to get together with our new friends and share that time with our children.



Commissioner Stefanie Ellis started presiding over FTC in July 2019. Prior to joining the Superior Court bench, Commissioner Ellis had a private family law practice. Her strength-based and trauma-informed approach aims to help motivate parents to make healthy lifestyle and safe parenting decisions that benefits the entire family. Her interactions with both parent and child in court is evidence of her family-centered approach.

NPC Research is currently contracted to provide an outcome evaluation with grant funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The grant provided almost \$2 million in funding to enhance services in the areas of mentoring and evidence-based parenting classes. The results from the last evaluation conducted in 2014 proved that families participating in FTC had increased reunification rates and saved taxpayer dollars (evaluation summary on TSC website).





“ Man oh man I don't even know what to say and where to start! This has been such a long incredible journey and I've learned so much about myself and about others. More specifically, I've learned how my actions affect others. I look at myself in the mirror today and I love the woman that I see. I'm happy, joyous and free! I have so much support and love around me and not only do I know how to give it, but I know how to accept it. My past is my past and I can't change it and to be honest I wouldn't change it for the world because it brought me to where I am today. I'm grateful for all the people that came into my life and challenged me and pushed me to be better because they believed in me and they saw something in me that I couldn't see in myself. I am happy to finally be graduating from the FTC, but now I can go out and help other women that are going through the same struggles. It's hard to be leaving at the same time because you guys have become like my family. I love all of you from the bottom of my heart and me and my kids will be forever grateful for the life that you taught us and because of you guys we get to have an amazing life. Family Treatment Court is amazing and it really does help people. Keep pushing, keep motivating, keep encouraging parents because it works. It may

not always be easy but at the end of the day it's worth it, our children are worth it and the participants will learn to appreciate it once they see the results!

” ~ Candi

<b>Ending Caseload on December 31st, 2019</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Number of referrals to the program</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Number of individuals that opted in</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Number of individuals that successfully completed the program</b>	<b>12 parents</b>
	<b>23 children reunited</b>
<b>Number of individuals that were unsuccessfully discharged</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total number of graduates since program inception (2006)</b>	<b>114</b>

*Excerpt from NPC Research Process Evaluation (January 2019)*

**The Program has creative incentives and rewards for participants.** NPC has previously completed evaluations with other Clark County Therapeutic Courts, and observed that these programs have continuously come up with creative and innovative ideas around incentives to provide to participants. Common incentives used with participants include sobriety coins, gift cards, and opportunities to “shop” in the toy closet. There is also the 100% Board [of compliance] where the team visually lists the names of parents in full compliance with program conditions and recognizes them with a round of applause. Participants can draw from the “fish bowl” when they reach certain milestones (such as 30 days of sobriety, complete treatment goal/parenting classes, or at the recommendation of team members) where participants draw a plastic egg that hold rewards inside. Other rewards include being called first on the docket and able to leave early, praise, recordable storybooks for children in out of home placement and applause. The program also specifically utilizes keyrings and “blessing rings,” which are small metal tokens that have various inspirational / motivational words, sayings, or slogans engraved on them and can be attached to a necklace or keychain.



# Juvenile Recovery Court



The Clark County Juvenile Recovery Court (JRC) provides effective substance use and mental health disorder treatment services and intensive supervision to eligible juvenile offenders, thereby reducing the likelihood to reoffend and improving future success. JRC provides individualized evidence-based treatment services and a system of immediate rewards and responses to address behaviors. The Honorable Derek J. Vanderwood currently presides over the Juvenile Recovery Court and has led the team to continue to enhance the program with more best practice policies.

With the assistance of a federal grant and on-site training, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has worked alongside the team to reduce the use of and length of stay in juvenile detention for minor violations and utilize more alternatives. A recent excerpt from a process evaluation conducted by NPC Research :

## *Parent/guardian focus group quotes (talking about what they like most about the program):*

- "A wonderful team every step of the way. Always an open line of communication. My questions are always met with a response. It is a wonderful program. It saved my son's life."
- "I think that the kids recognize that the staff actually do truly care about them. Kids can quickly note this. I think that makes them want to do well and not wake up in jail."
- "I appreciate that it is a custom fit. Everyone here won't go through the same things and the same programs. Everyone gets what they need."
- "I like the DBT and impulse control of it. They are teenagers. They don't think, they just react. It allows them to slow down and understand their reactions."
- "It was nice to go to family therapy. It affects us all."
- This offers him the opportunity to go straight and not just do what he wants to do. He didn't want a felony on his record for the rest of his life."

## *Participant focus group quote (talking about what they like most about the program):*

- "Accountability is high, but they also give you an opportunity to succeed through chances and not just throwing you right in jail."
- "Can clear your record – you get charges dropped if you complete the program."

**Team member commitment, enthusiasm, and investment in successful outcomes were readily apparent during site visit activities.**

One of the biggest strengths of the Clark County JRC is its individual team members—they show a remarkable level of empathy and compassion, as there were multiple examples during the staffing session where team members provided context for negative behaviors or issues that arose among the participants. The team also makes great efforts to highlight positive behaviors and choices of participants. They focus on assets the participant possesses and do a great job of acknowledging progress including small, incremental steps towards a goal.

**Judge's leadership and approach in court was outstanding.**

The judge is commended for providing a level of continuity and leadership that has allowed the program to remain effective, despite changes in team membership. Despite these significant changes, the program has been able to maintain, and even improve upon, many best practices. The judge is also commended for his overall demeanor and interactions with participants in court. He is genuine, encouraging, and focused on the positives throughout the court session. He begins each participant conversation by asking "what has gone well?" or "tell me something good that has happened recently." Participants seem open and honest with him, even when he notes negative behaviors, as he does this in a non-confrontational way. He is consistent in his treatment of all participants and provides directives for what is expected of them going forward. It also stands out that he ends each interaction on an affirmative note, telling each participant to "make it a good week."



The Juvenile Recovery Court team utilizes the seven Juvenile Drug Treatment Court (JDTC) Guidelines, an evidence-based toolkit for courts, which emphasizes strategies for family engagement, addressing substance use and mental health disorders of adolescents in the justice system and incorporating an age and developmentally appropriate perspective for interventions. Youth and families are provided opportunities throughout the year to engage in family activities and prosocial events to promote healthy lifestyles, interests and connections. Above: several JRC youth and team members attending a bowling night.

- 1** Objective 1. Focus the JDTC philosophy and practice on effectively addressing substance use and criminogenic needs to decrease future offending and substance use and to increase positive outcomes.
- 2** Objective 2. Ensure equitable treatment for all youth by adhering to eligibility criteria and conducting an initial screening.
- 3** Objective 3. Provide a JDTC process that engages the full JDTC team and follows procedures fairly.
- 4** Objective 4. Conduct comprehensive needs assessments that inform individualized case management.
- 5** Objective 5. Implement contingency management, case management, and community supervision strategies effectively.
- 6** Objective 6. Refer participants to evidence-based substance use treatment, to other services, and for prosocial connections.
- 7** Objective 7. Monitor and track program completion and termination.

[www.ncjfcj.org](http://www.ncjfcj.org)

*Participant focus group quotes (describing Judge Vanderwood):*

- “nicest guy... always has smile on his face even when he’s giving community service, just really nice.”
- “...treats you fairly when you are doing what you are supposed to be doing.”
- “compassionate, concerned, kind, thoughtful, considerate.”

<b>Ending Caseload on December 31st, 2019</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Number of referrals to the program</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Number of individuals that opted in</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Number of individuals that successfully completed the program</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Number of individuals that voluntarily opted out of the program</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Number of individuals that were terminated from the program</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total number of graduates since program inception (2007)</b>	<b>131</b>

# Therapeutic Specialty Court Contact Info Superior Court Staff

[www.clark.wa.gov/therapeutic-courts](http://www.clark.wa.gov/therapeutic-courts)



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Family Treatment Court: Held on Monday's at 3:00pm at Family Court Building

Juvenile Recovery Court: Held on Wednesday's at 4:00pm at Juvenile Court Building

Adult Drug Court: Held on Thursday's at 10:30am and 2:30pm at Main Courthouse

Residential DOSA Drug Court: Held on Friday's at 12:00pm at Main Courthouse

Court hearings are open to the public and we welcome you to come see where  
compassion and accountability transform lives!



Treatment Courts Work!



Treatment Courts  
Advance Justice

Treatment Courts =  
Restorative Justice

